



# Georgia Department of Agriculture

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**Gary W. Black**  
Commissioner

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## **PEDv Update**

To all Georgia Swine Producers, Swine Markets and Swine Exhibitors:

As reported earlier, two fecal swabs taken from pigs at the Georgia Junior National Livestock Show held February 18-21, 2015 have been found to be positive for **Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv)**. These are the first known positive animals to be found in Georgia. During the course of the show multiple pigs displayed clinical symptoms associated with PEDv. Results from samples taken were received on February 27<sup>th</sup> and the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) immediately responded with biosecurity measures to prevent further spread of the disease. The locations of the pigs associated with the positive samples were visited by GDA personnel over the weekend. Further movement of the pigs has been controlled pending additional tests.

PEDv is a highly contagious virus that has spread across the US swine industry. However, it is important to note that PEDv is not a food safety or public health risk. GDA is working closely with other animal industry partners to provide information about bio-security, disease prevention and control.

It is important to remember that all pigs attending the Junior National Livestock Show are potentially exposed to this highly contagious virus. The incubation period for PEDv is 36 hours. Symptoms can emerge four to five days after exposure and vary widely depending on the age of the pig affected. Symptoms include off-feed, vomiting, diarrhea and increased mortality. Pigs can also be asymptomatic carriers of the virus.

Biosecurity is the key to preventing spread of the disease. It is important to limit travel and commingling with other swine, associated events or personnel. The disease can be spread by pig to pig contact and by contaminated equipment, chutes, trailers, vehicles, clothing and personnel. All equipment should be cleaned and disinfected and all sick animals isolated. It is important to regularly observe your herd for evidence of disease.

You can find information about PEDv at:

[www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov)

<http://www.pork.org/>

<https://www.pork.org/pork-checkoff-research/pedv/>

PEDv is reportable. If you have pigs exhibiting any of the symptoms of PEDv, please contact your veterinarian immediately and report to the Georgia Department of Agriculture online at <http://agr.georgia.gov/animal-health.aspx>. You may also call Animal Health at 404-656-3667 or the State Veterinarian's office at 404-656-3671.

GDA will continue to work with our partners to develop a comprehensive strategy to contain and control this disease. We appreciate the cooperation of all Georgia swine producers as we work to accomplish this goal.

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Georgia Department of Agriculture